

*Clarksville Academy*  
*2025 Summer Reading Assignment*  
*Rising Second Graders*

Dear Parents,

Daily reading practice is a key component on the journey to independent reading. Today, parents and children have a multitude of enticements competing for their attention. All too often, children plead for access to the digital market with its adrenal boosting sights and sounds. The challenge is guiding children to recognize the life-giving beauty of a story. In order to cultivate virtuous character, build background knowledge, and nurture a love of reading, we must spend time in quality literature. Reading to and with your child, and listening to them read a book to you, creates the perfect pathway to enter the world of living books. It will enable you and your child to relish all of the mysteries, surprises, and wonders they contain.

Our choices change who we are and how we live. How we spend our time influences our character. Open the books, read beyond just this list, and let us give our children one of the best gifts they could receive—time spent with you, cultivating a life-long love of reading. Review the suggested choices and then enjoy the reading journey by asking a lot of questions about the ideas each book presents.

Please have your child read widely and often, both with you and independently each day. The list below is meant to provide you with some ideas for fiction and non-fiction book selections for your upcoming second grader. Many of the non-fiction suggestions provide inspiration and background knowledge for upcoming science and history topics.

Please have your child choose **at least one book from this list**, but please don't stop there! Challenge your child to read as many books as possible this summer. They do not have to be on this list. Choose a "good fit" book for your young reader. Also, choose a more advanced book to read with your child each night. I promise that you won't regret it. You will both look forward to the excitement of each new chapter.

### **STEM Books:**

*Rosie Reverie, Engineer*, by Andrea Beaty  
*Balloons Over Broadway*, by Melissa Sweet \*(a great immigration story)  
*Jada Jones, Sleepover Scientist*, by Kelly Starling Lyons

### **Environmental Books (Science/Nature):**

*The Great Kapok Tree*, by Lynne Cherry  
*Over and Under the Wetland*, by Kate Messner  
*The River that Flows Beside Me*, by Charlotte Guillain

### **Realistic Fiction about Friendship (Citizenship/Character):**

*Orris and Timble, the Beginning*, by Kate DiCamillo  
*Stella and Marigold*, by Annie Barrows  
*Each Kindness*, by Jacqueline Woodson  
*Friendship is My Superpower*, by Alicia Ortega

### **Mystery and Critical Thinking Books:**

*Magic Tree House Series*, by Mary Pope Osborne  
*Cam Jansen Series*, by David Adler  
*Rookie Detective*, by Mateo Sommer  
*The Amazing Life of Azaleah Lane*, by Nikki Shannon Smith

### **Government Books:**

*Grace for President*, by Kelly DiPucchio  
*Otto Runs for President*, by Rosemary Wells

### **Biography Books:**

Any book from the *Itty-Bitty Bio Series*  
Any book from the *Little People, Big Dreams Series*  
Any book from the *Who Was? Or Who Is? Series (more advanced)*

## Assignment:

\*\*If you read an **informational book**, **STEM book**, or a **biography**, draw a picture of something that inspired you. Write at least two sentences explaining what you learned from reading this book.

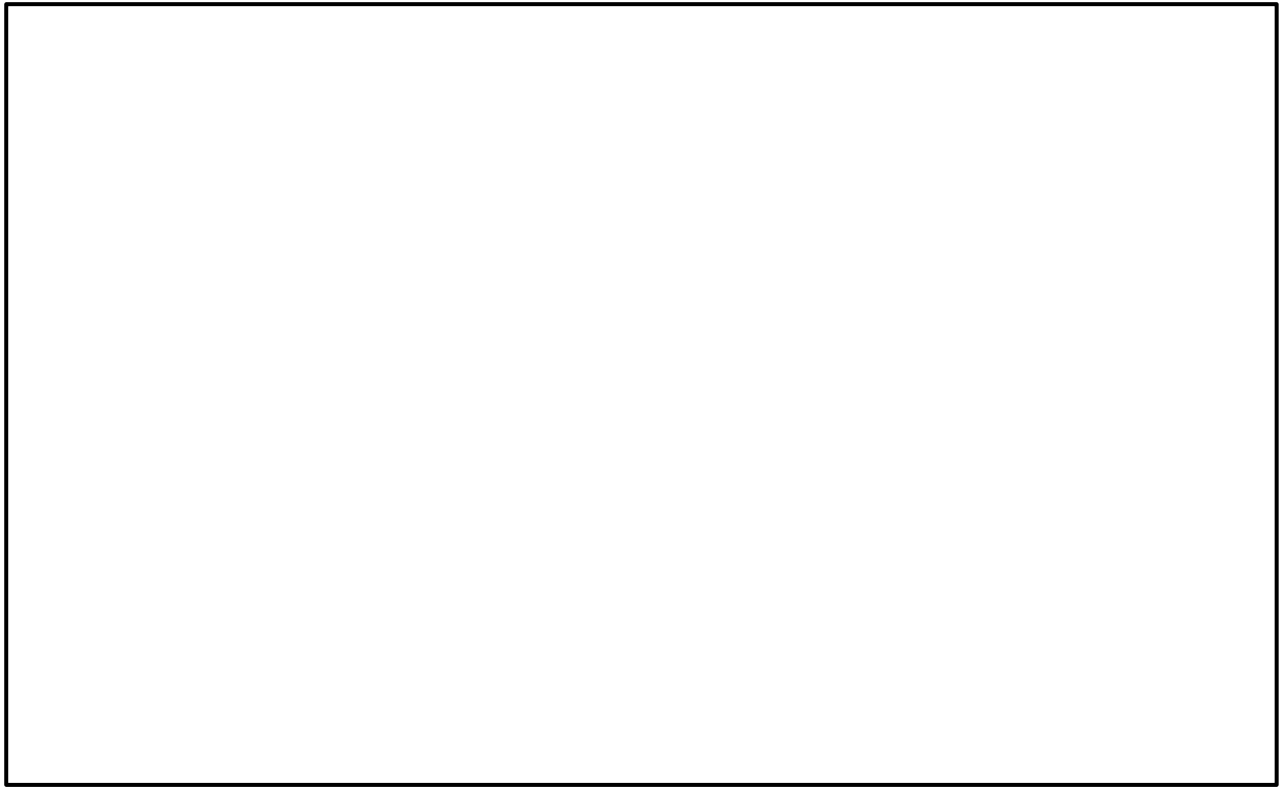
\*\*If you read a **realistic fiction** or a **mystery**, draw a picture of your favorite part of the book and write at least two sentences explaining what is happening in your picture.

*“Books to the ceiling,  
Books to the sky,  
My pile of books is a mile high.  
How I love them! How I need them!  
I’ll have a long beard  
by the time I read them.”*

— Arnold Lobel



*Happy Reading!*



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